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3 February 1970

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## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ARGO Meeting, Room 208, EOB,  
Wednesday 0930 A.M. - 28 January 1970

1. [ ] presided in [ ] absence. Otto Guthe was present for CIA, [ ] from NRO, and [ ] and the undersigned from NPIC.

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2. [ ] led off with three agenda items:

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New Office of Emergency Planning (OEP) Group

OEP: [ ] will chair a working group of all ARGO agencies to determine a procedure of immediate action to obtain and distribute data following onset of a disaster. Imagery will be primarily from Defense airplanes. "Button" response from Defense, quick readout by immediately available "reservists" (who will be contributed by USGS, Agric., NASA, etc.), use of USGS space at Reston, are included in the tentative concept.

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[ ] (OEP) set off the effort in a letter to [ ] (White House science adviser and head of the White House/Office of Science and Technology) requesting an ARGO working group because of TKH information used in area data bases and, on occasion, fortuitous disaster coverage. Nominees to be sent in by February 10th. NPIC will act in support of CIA advisor.

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[It is worth mentioning that the undersigned avoided entangling NPIC or CIA in a question of "States Rights" arising from disaster responsibilities!!]

A note of urgency was made by Davis of ESSA who referred to approaching spring floods. [ ] said request for members appointment to the OEP group will be out soon and will include date of 1st meeting.

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Believe CIA and NPIC responsibility will be minimal, e.g. we'll try to cover disaster areas in advance for data base - as possible in domestic tests, and, if we have opportunity, cover during a disaster. This has been done so far and is not new.

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GROUP 1  
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downgrading and  
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Data Handling - NASA's Earth Resources Survey Program

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A representative of the contractors [ ] briefed ARGO on their design for a combined data handling and operations center at Goddard. The briefing was too detailed functionally and was supported by vugraphs which were too small to read.

Some highlights are: Bird will carry 3 sensing systems - a "high-resolution" return-beam Vidicon, a multi-spectral scanner and a data collection device. There will be 3 recovery stations hooked to the Center at Goddard. Processing will be in two stages -- bulk (straight conversion to imagery) and precision (rectification and digitization). Center of image will be calculated within two miles.

A Flight Opportunity Program will be published allowing anyone in the U.S. scientific and technical community to participate in an experiment. Such proposals will be decided by April, 1971.

Users, or in NASA's vernacular-principal investigators, will receive data 18 days after ground acquisition. Distribution will be automatic to all government and non-government principal investigators. Non-principal investigators outside of government will receive data after 30 days or more. It is planned to cover the U.S. entirely and continuously and also some other areas, primarily oceanographic.

A 35,000 sq. ft. estimate for the data processing and ops center will probably rise to 50,000 sq. ft. Principal investigators will have space assigned.

400 to 500 frames every 18 days with 3 "templats" being received every 25 seconds during operations will be received. The frames are 100 sq. mi. format on the ground.

USGS Requirements for Coverage of Domestic Holiday Areas

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[ ] USGS Reston special activities head presented a map of the U.S. with small holiday areas where he needs U-2 coverage. Request has been placed with [ ] DIA, and the COMIREX MC&G Working Group.

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A policy matter involving competition with commercial companies (an old problem) was raised and will be noted through the MC&G Working Group to appropriate authorities for an O.K.

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### 3. Next Meeting

[ ] requested that the next meeting of ARGO be held in [ ]. The purpose, in view of ARGO's current emphasis on the proposed NASA data processing and ops center, is to give certain ARGO members a feel for the number of activities in and the magnitude of processing a mission, e.g. receipt of imagery, handling and storage, use of ephemeris data, etc. using the KH-4 as an example. In discussion with [ ] later, I advised him that as a matter of policy, we needed guidance from higher authority in hosting a non-community group (this question has been brought to Mr. Lundahl's attention and is the subject of notice by Otto Guthe to [ ] for clearance with [ ]

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I also advised [ ] that we would much rather have a small group and that that might be accomplished by eliminating those already familiar with handling a mission and concentrate on 6 or 8 people who will be primarily responsible for their agencies' interest in the proposed NASA center. He agreed to hold the size of the group down.

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Planning, Programming & Budgeting Staff  
NPIC

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